BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

ELSIE EDQUILANG GARCIA 3108 Julie Court West Covina, CA 91792

Registered Nurse License No. 238610

Respondent

Case No. 2013-81

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on March 15, 2013.

IT IS SO ORDERED February 15, 2013.

Raymond Mallel, President
Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

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KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General of California
KAREN B. CHAPPELLE
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
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Deputy Attorney General
State Bar No. 246134
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Attorneys for Complainant

BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

ELSIE EDQUILANG GARCIA 3108 Julie Court West Covina, CA 91792 Registered Nurse License No. 238610

Respondent.

Case No. 2013-81

STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER FOR PUBLIC REPROVAL

[Bus. & Prof. Code § 495]

In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the public interest and the responsibility of the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer Affairs, the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval which will be submitted to the Board for approval and adoption as the final disposition of the Accusation.

PARTIES

- 1. LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN ("Complainant") is the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Randy M. Mailman, Deputy Attorney General.
- 2. Elsie Edquilang Garcia ("Respondent") is represented in this proceeding by attorney Jeffrey S. Pollak of Ropers Majeski Kohn & Bentley, whose address is: 515 South Flower Street, Suite 1100, Los Angeles, CA 90017-2213.

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 3. On or about November 30, 1973, the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board") issued Registered Nurse License No. 238610 to Respondent. The Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2013-81 and will expire on January 31, 2013, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 2013-81 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing,
Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation
and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on August 1,
2012. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of
Accusation No. 2013-81 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2013-81. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY .

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 2013-81.

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9. Respondent agrees that her Registered Nurse License is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Registered Nursing. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Registered Nursing may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or her counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 238610 issued to Respondent shall, by way of letter from the Board's Executive Officer, be publicly reproved. The letter shall be in the same form as the letter attached as Exhibit B to this stipulation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within 1 year from the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall pay \$2,700.00 to the Board for its costs associated with the investigation and enforcement of this matter. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board. If Respondent fails to pay the Board costs as ordered, Respondent shall not be allowed to renew her Registered Nurse License until Respondent pays costs in full.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Jeffrey S. Pollak. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing.

Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Elsie Edquilang Garcia the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order

for Public Reproval. I approve its form and content.

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Teffrey S. Pollak of Ropers Majeski Kohn & Bentley Attorney for Respondent

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ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated:

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Respectfully submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California KAREN B. CHAPPELLE Supervising Deputy Attorney General

FOR

RANDY M. MAILMAN Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant

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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (2013-81)

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 2013-81

		· has	
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1	Kamala D. Harris		
2	Attorney General of California KAREN B. CHAPPELLE		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General RANDY M. MAILMAN		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 246134		
	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702		
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2442		
6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant		
7	BEFORE THE		
8	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
9	STATE OF	CALIFORNIA	
10 11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2013-81	
	ELSIE EDQUILANG GARCIA		
12	3108 Julie Court West Covina, CA 91792	ACCUSATION	
13 14	Registered Nurse License No. 238610		
15	Respondent.		
16	Complainant alleges:	_	
17	<u>PARTIES</u>		
18	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her		
19	official capacity as the Interim Executive Office	er of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department	
20	of Consumer Affairs.		
21	2. On or about November 30, 1973, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered		
22	Nurse License Number 238610 to Elsie Edquilang Garcia ("Respondent"). The Registered Nurse		
23	License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will		
24	expire on January 31, 2013, unless renewed.		
25	JURIS	DICTION	
26	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board"),		
27	Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section		
28	references are to the Business and Professions Code ("Code") unless otherwise indicated.		

4. Section 2750 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with Code section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 5. Section 118, subdivision (b) of the Code provides, in pertinent part:
 - "(b) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking disciplinary action against the licensee on any such ground."
- 6. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license.
 - 7. Section 2761 of the Code provides, in pertinent part:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- (a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:..."
- 8. Section 2811, subdivision (b) of the Code provides:

"Each such license not renewed in accordance with this section shall expire but may within a period of eight years thereafter be reinstated upon payment of the biennial renewal fee and penalty fee required by this chapter and upon submission of such proof of the applicant's qualifications as may be required by the board, except that during such eight-year period no examination shall be required as a condition for the reinstatement of any such expired license which has lapsed solely by reason of nonpayment of the renewal fee. After the expiration of such eight-year period the board may require as a condition of reinstatement that the applicant pass such examination as it deems necessary to determine his present fitness to resume the practice of professional nursing."

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

9. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section, 1419.3 provides:

"In the event a licensee does not renew his/her license as provided in Section 2811 of the code, the license expires. A licensee renewing pursuant to this section shall furnish a full set of fingerprints as required by and set out in section 1419(b) as a condition of renewal.

- (a) A licensee may renew a license that has not been expired for more than eight years by paying the renewal and penalty fees as specified in Section 1417 and providing evidence of 30 hours of continuing education taken within the prior two-year period.
- (b) A licensee may renew a license that has been expired for more than eight years by paying the renewal and penalty fees specified in Section 1417 and providing evidence that he or she holds a current valid active and clear registered nurse license in another state, a United States territory, or Canada, or by passing the Board's current examination for licensure."

COST RECOVERY

10. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct)

- 11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 2761, subdivision (a), in that Respondent committed acts of unprofessional conduct. The conduct is more particularly described as follows:
- 12. On or about August 26, 2008, while working as a registered nurse at Kindred Hospital of San Gabriel Valley, Respondent intentionally slapped an 85 year old patient in the leg while attempting to change the patient's bandages.
- 13. Respondent's failure to provide considerate and respectful care at all times constitutes unprofessional conduct.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 238610, issued to Elsie Edquilang Garcia;
- 2. Ordering Elsie Edquilang Garcia to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 7/24/2012

LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN

Interim Executive Officer
Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant

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Exhibit B

Letter of Public Reproval in Case No. 2013-81



STATE AND CONSLIMER SERVICES AGENCY . GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.

Board of Registered Nursing
P O Box 944210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100
P (916) 322-3350 I www.rn.ca.gov
Louise R. Bailey, M.ED., RN, Executive Officer



February 15, 2013

Elsie Edquilang Garcia 3108 Julie Court West Covina, CA 91792

RE:

LETTER OF PUBLIC REPROVAL

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Elsie Edquilang Garcia, Registered Nurse License No. 238610

Dear Ms. Garcia:

On July 24, 2012, the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, filed an Accusation against your Registered Nurse License. The Accusation alleged that you engaged in unprofessional conduct, a violation of Business and Professions Code sections 2761, subdivision (a). On or about August 26, 2008, while working as a registered nurse at Kindred Hospital of San Gabriel Valley, you intentionally slapped an 85 year old patient in the leg while attempting to change the patient's bandages. Your failure to provide considerate and respectful care at all times constitutes unprofessional conduct.

Taking into consideration that you have been a registered nurse in since 1973 without prior incident, you have received excellent job performance evaluations from Kindred Hospital, you enjoy a reputation as a caring and compassionate nurse, and that there are other mitigating circumstances in this case that support the determination that you are safe to practice registered nursing, the Board has decided that the charges warrant a public reproval.

Accordingly, in resolution of this matter under the authority provided under Business and Professions Code section 495, the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs issues this letter of public reproval.

Sincerely,

LOUISE R. BAILEY, W.ED., R.N.

Executive Officer

Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California